a time-frame of six months for offering a pilot sample only, placing an order on Ordnance Factory, Medak was not considered by the competent authority.

(b) During exploitation of 200 Light Bullet Proof Vehicles procured in July, 2005, some defects were reported, for which a new engine is being trial evaluated. Also, a few minor defects as reported by the Eastern Command in respect of the 9 vehicles procured in February, 2007, are being addressed by the Original Equipment Manufacturer.

(c) and (d) The question of procurement of an item through indigenous or global sources or through manufacturing by the Ordnance Factory Board, keeping in view the technological capability available in the country and the operational urgency, is processed in terms of the Defence Procurement Procedure and other relevant provisions of procurement. Based on the decision taken at the appropriate forum as laid down therein, the Requests for Proposals are issued accordingly.

Inducting of Brahmos

3133. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any progress in inducting Supersonic Brahmos into our regular fighting force;

(b) what is the stage of Russia agreeing to hire out nuclear powered Akula submarine for training purpose; and

(c) in case the above did not materialize, what is the way-out in the process?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Brahmos Supersonic cruise missile has gone through a series of successive successful flight trials from ship and road mobile launchers with integrated user configuration for Navy and Army. The Brahmos system has been accepted and being produced. The induction process has already commenced for Navy and Army.

(b) and (c) Information can not be divulged in the interest of National Security.

Outsourcing of services/trades in armed forces

3134. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry has approved outsourcing of services/trades in Army, Navy and Air Force due to deficiency in civilian manpower and the adverse effect of the same on the functioning in lower formation;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the details of such services/trades and manpower employed in such outsourced services?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The issue of deficiency in civilian manpower in the three services and the adverse effect of the same on the functioning in lower formations and outsourcing of services has been examined. It has been clarified to the three Services Headquarters that provisions for outsourcing of Services already exist in